

## Family Friendly Yet Trendy: Almyra Hotel & Spa

Choosing A Family Friendly Hotel Doesn't Have To Suck



Elysha Krupp

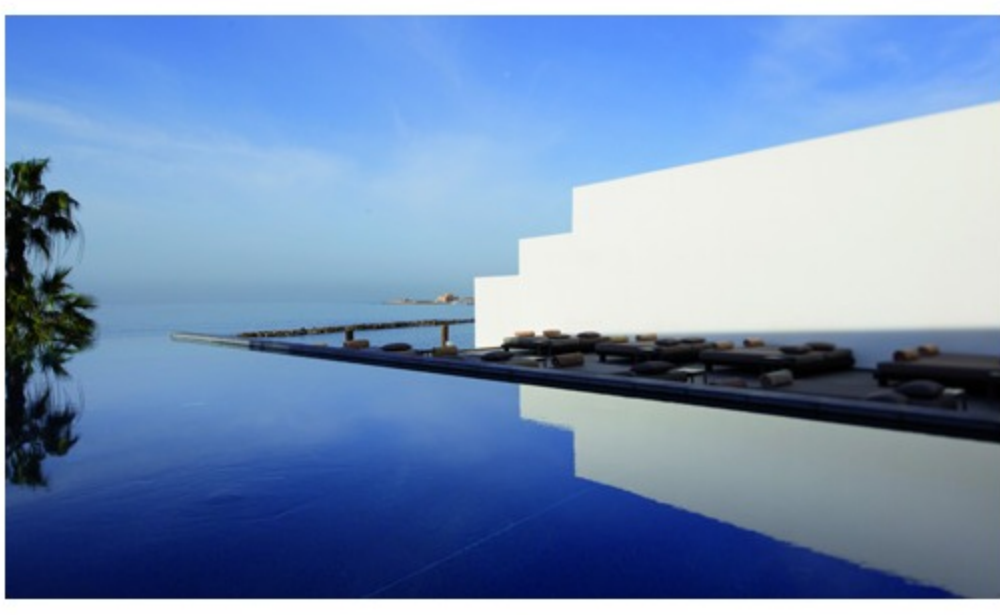
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There comes a time when your Facebook feed changes drastically. All those Kings Day / Oktoberfest / Ultra festival posts sunbaked and beer-soaked people, captioned "Dunno how Danny made it through the night!" start slowly turning into engagements, weddings, house purchases and baby announcements. And, at around the same time, his choice of holiday posts shift focus, too, from best-stocked mini bars to best kids' clubs.

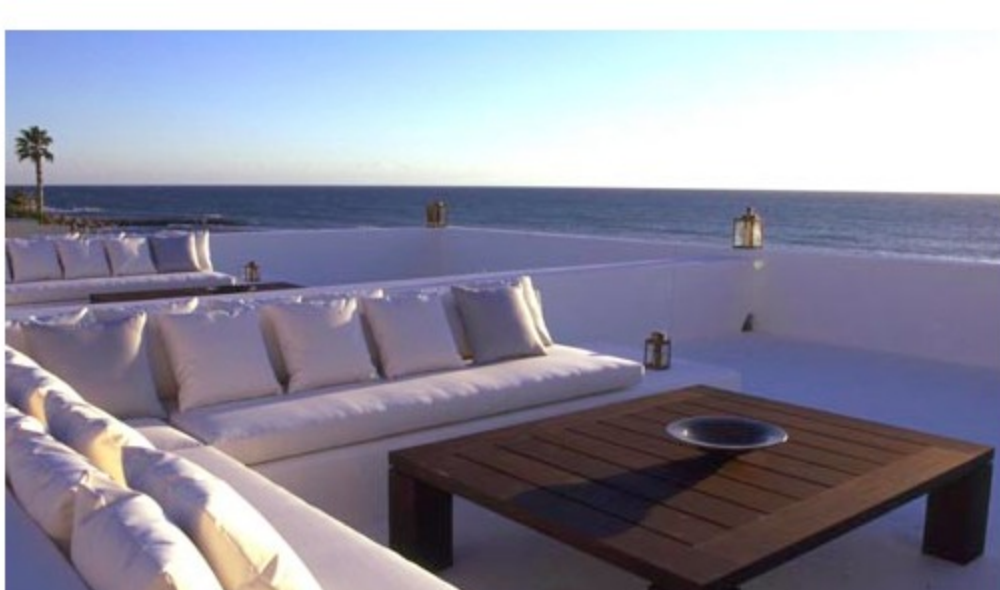
Don't get me wrong – holidays aren't all downhill after you have kids (I don't think). It's just that all your decisions become focused on keeping a little human alive and happy rather than, you know, which breakfast buffet has the full English. The good news? This massive life change you've been simultaneously longing for and dreading doesn't have to be all liquid food and poo; at Cyprus' family-friendly luxury offering Almyra Hotel & Spa you're able to enjoy a few cocktails by the adults-only infinity pool (below) while gearing up for New Father Of The Year Award at the same time.



Getting there is surprisingly easy: About a 15 minute drive from Paphos and a 4-hour flight from London, it's a quick trip if you're after guaranteed autumn/winter sun. Just off a popular coastal path, the hotel is only 700m from the port, well within walking distance of most shops and restaurants and having great views back to the harbour. So if you're craving the kind of R&R where you literally don't leave the hotel for three days, no one will judge you, but if you want to hire a nanny and hit up an outdoor supper club for some "you and her" time, that's an option too. You also don't need to drive yourself crazy making sure you've not forgotten some essential component to keeping your kid alive: with the hotel's Baby-Go-Lightly service you can pre-order essentials before arriving – it's around a 50 per cent markup, but it does conserve precious luggage allowances (and holiday headspace).



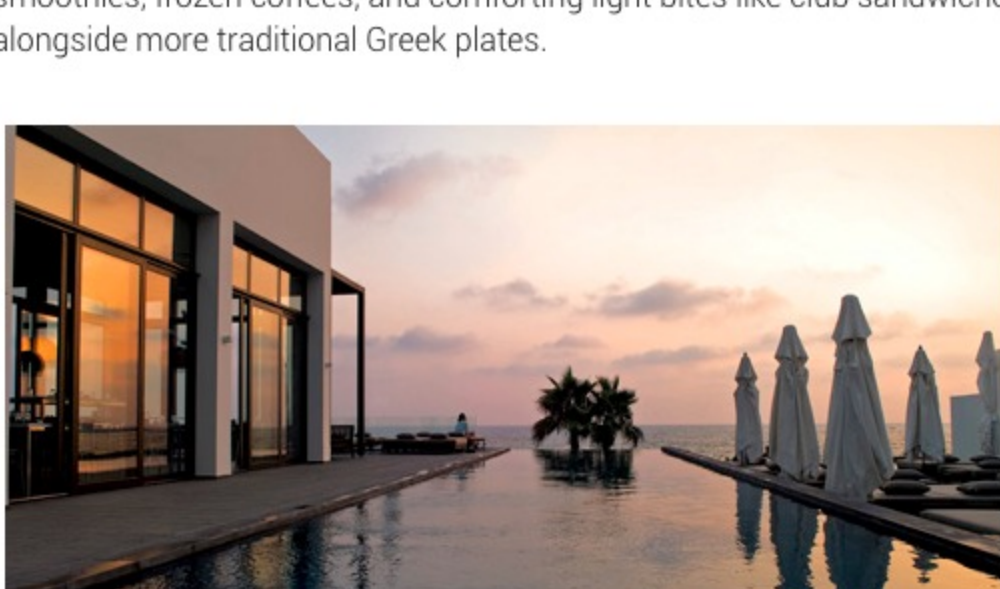
Despite Almyra's size – hosting two pools, four restaurants and a spa, it feels surprisingly intimate. We stayed in one of the hotel's Kyma Suites on the seafront, close enough to hear the gentle lapping of the waves ('kyma' in Cypriot) and near enough to the pools and restaurants while still feeling private. The suites are bright, open-plan with glass doors that lead out onto a lawnside terrace with a daybed – big enough for kids to run on while you catch some sun. There's also an al fresco rooftop lounge shared by all the suites where you can watch the sunset (highly recommended).



We spotted a few young families but equally young couples and older groups (in cooler months the **hotel plays host to triathletes** who come to train in the mild climate). The seafront restaurant, Ouzeri, offers an outdoor upscale Greek bistro with a few couches and smaller tables for sipping a Greek tippie way past the sunset. There's been a new French chef in place since 2015 so you can enjoy an equally good **souvlaki** as you can a homemade pasta with fresh lobster.



The adults-only AlmyraSpa and infinity pool area is not to be missed; a poolside bar, Eauzone, delivers every kind of cocktail imaginable, fresh fruit smoothies, frozen coffees, and comforting light bites like club sandwiches alongside more traditional Greek plates.



The adjacent spa will be the icing on the hotel's adult-yet-kid-friendly cake – after having a look around the sauna, steam room, Vichy showers, yoga deck and heated indoor pool, you won't know you're not at a luxury spa in central London. They've got a menu catered to dudes, too, including a seaweed facial and sea salt back exfoliation and massage treatment (€ 110).

One thing is for sure: having a kid doesn't have to mean you're relegated to nappy duty at Almyra.

Rooms from £119 at [www.almyra.com](http://www.almyra.com)

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